

20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**KS3 Spring term assessments**

Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter is to make you aware that when we return back after the Christmas break, your child will be completing an assessment in many of their subjects. These assessments are important as they will be used to generate some of your child's performance grades for the first half of the academic year and could lead to teaching group changes.

These assessments help us understand whether good progress is being made in each subject and it also helps us to identify your child's individual strengths and weaknesses.

In order to help students prepare for these assessments, we are sharing in advance the list of topics that they will be tested on. These can all be found on the next few pages. We also hope this information keeps you informed of what it is exactly your child is currently learning in each subject while at school. Please share this information with your child and encourage them to revise. We recommend the following strategies as they are known to be beneficial even once they begin their GCSEs:

- Work in a quiet, clear space
- Avoid distractions such as mobile phones
- Create flash cards and mind maps
- Use a revision timetable which outlines the subjects they should practise each day

**Your child's first academic report this year** will be shared with you just before the end of the half term in February. This report will include the performance grades they were awarded in each subject as well as their commitment to learning grades.

If you have any further questions, please email the head of department of that subject and they will endeavour to answer your query as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr Onabanjo**  
**KS3 Raising Standards Lead**  
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## Year 7

Subject	Focus of the assessment
Maths	<b>This assessment will test a range of topics including:</b> Language of probability, multiplication, place value, rounding, division, square roots, square numbers, prime numbers, multiples, bidmas, simplifying expressions, function machines, calculating probability, expected outcomes, expanding single brackets, solving equations, writing expressions, add and subtract negative numbers, multiplying with negative numbers, LCM, substitution, estimation, solving equations
English	<b>This will be a creative writing assessment</b> focusing on writing a short story and their analytical writing/analysis of Oliver Twist extract
Sci	<b>This assessment will test a range of things including:</b> Units of measurement, investigations, variables, analysing results, cells, respiratory system, muscles, joints, compounds and mixtures, particles
French	<b>This will be a speaking assessment</b> You will need to answer 5 questions about yourself. 1. What do you like and why? 2. What don't you like and why? 3. What is your personality like? 4. Can you describe yourself physically? 5. Can you describe your friend? Students will be marked on their communication (is it clear and relevant?) out of 15. Revise all the vocabulary you have learnt since Term 2 using your book and knowledge organisers on Google Classroom. <i>Please note: this grade will be used as part of your end of year grade and not your interim report.</i>
Geog	<b>This assessment will cover:</b> Where We Live - The UK - Term 2 Content
His	<b>This assessment will cover:</b> Norman consolidation of power 1066 - '87.
Drama	<b>The assessment will focus on Twisted Tales and the skill covered in the other lessons that took place in Term 2.</b> Students' final grade will be calculated using an average of all prior learning throughout the year. Students will build and prepare performances ready for assessment alongside completing their reflection journal. The skills that students will be graded on are: Voice, Movement, Role, Rapport and Style and intention.
Comp Sci	<b>The assessment will focus on the topic of hardware.</b> Students will be assessed on components of a computer (CPU, motherboards, RAM and ROM), storage on a computer (magnetic and solid state), hardware and software (operating system, utility software and applications) and input and output devices

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Music	<b>The assessment will focus on</b> students composing their own melodies, then playing it on the piano in front of the class (60%). A Google quiz of 20 questions forms the listening/theory part of the assessment.
Art	<b>The assessment is focused on</b> students' knowledge and understanding of how to draw an accurate observational drawing of a portrait. Students will be demonstrating their skills of how to apply accurate proportions and tone.
Tech	<p><b>Students in Technology are taught on a rotation. This means what they will be measured against will depend what part of the rotation they are currently on</b></p> <p>The focus of each rotation is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Textiles - Creating a cushion cover</li> <li>- Food - Healthy eating</li> <li>- Product design - Making a steady hand game</li> <li>- Resistant materials - Making a pop up book</li> </ul>
PE	The assessment is focused on students ability to identify and <b>demonstrate skills learnt in practical lessons in a full context match</b>

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## Year 8

Subject	Focus of the assessment
Maths	<b>This assessment will test a range of topics including:</b> Place value, rounding decimals, dividing decimals, simplifying expressions, volume of cuboids, pie charts interpretation, dividing decimals, estimation, surface area of a cube, interpreting graphs, multiplying decimals, dividing decimals, two way tables, drawing pie charts, index laws, simplifying expressions, volume problems, grouped data, prime factors, plans and elevations, LCM
English	<b>This will be a creative writing assessment</b> requiring the use of descriptions and analytical writing/analysis of The Tempest extract
Sci	<b>This assessment will test a range of things including:</b> Light and sound, investigative skills - health and safety, health issues - smoking, reproduction, metal reactions - physical properties, the Earth and beyond, circulation and respiration, cells and cell function, photosynthesis, plotting graphs
French	<b>This will be a Listening assessment</b> where you will answer 5 tasks covering a wide range of vocabulary about the topic of Paris. Revise all the vocabulary learnt since Term 2 using book and knowledge organisers on Google Classroom. The overall mark is 30. <i>Please note: the grade from this assessment will be used as part of the end of year grade but not interim report grade.</i>
Geog	<b>This assessment will focus on:</b> The Economy - Term 2 Content
His	<b>This assessment will focus on:</b> Slavery and the slave trade.
Drama	<b>The assessment will focus on devising a performance and the skills covered in the lessons that have taken place in Term 2.</b> Students' final grade will be calculated using an average of all prior learning throughout the year. Students will build and prepare performances ready for assessment alongside completing their reflection journal. The skills that students will be graded on are; Voice, Movement, Role, Rapport and Style and intention.
Comp Sci	<b>This assessment will focus on understanding the role of key figures in the history of computing and their contribution to computing language.</b> Topics include: ciphers, decryption machines, world wide web, logic gates
Music	<b>The assessment will focus on</b> learning 4 riffs on the keyboard (I've got a feeling), then playing it on the piano in front of the class (60%). A Google quiz of 20 questions forms the listening/theory part of the assessment.
Art	<b>This assessment is focused on</b> students' knowledge and understanding of one point perspective. Students will be able to demonstrate their skills of creating a one point perspective bedroom.
Tech	<b>Students in Technology are taught on a rotation. This means what they will be measured against will depend what part of the rotation they are currently on</b> The focus of each rotation is as follows:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Textiles - Creating a draw string or tote bag</li> <li>- Food - Food preparation</li> <li>- Product design - Making a wind chime</li> <li>- Resistant materials - Making a storage box.</li> </ul>
PE	The assessment is focused on students ability to identify and <b>demonstrate skills learnt in practical lessons in a full context match</b>

## Year 9

Subject	Focus of the assessment
Maths	<b>This assessment will test a range of topics including:</b> Square numbers, factors, multiples and primes, money problems, ordering decimals, money problems, bidmas, calculating with decimals, estimation, writing expressions, identities, substituting into expressions, prime factors, lcm, solving equations, simplifying expressions, decimal calculations, money problems, factorising quadratics, writing expressions
English	<b>This will be a transactional writing assessment focusing on</b> speech & analytical writing/analysis of Jane Eyre extract
Sci	<b>This assessment will test a range of things including:</b> Cell Biology - Magnification, waves in air, fluids and solids, simple models, symbols and RAM, periodic table and electronic structure, energy changes in a system, communicable diseases
French	<b>This will be a writing assessment where you</b> will answer 3 tasks covering a wide range of vocabulary about the topic of Healthy Living. The tasks will include: vocabulary match ups, a 90 word task and a translation task from English to French. Revise all the vocabulary you have learnt since Term 2 using your book and knowledge organisers on Google Classroom. The maximum mark is 38. <i>Please note: this grade will be used as part of your End of Year grade and not your interim report.</i>
Geog	<b>This assessment will focus on:</b> Tectonic Hazards - Term 2 Content
His	<b>This assessment will focus on:</b> The Home front in World War II.
Drama	<b>This assessment will focus on DNA and the lessons that have taken place in Term 2.</b> Students' final grade will be calculated using an average of all prior learning throughout the year. Students will build and prepare performances ready for assessment alongside completing their reflection journal. The skills that students will be graded on are; Voice, Movement, Role, Rapport and Style and intention.
Comp Sci	<b>The assessment will focus on</b> programming concepts including: variable assignment, data types, comparison operators, arithmetic operators, selection statements, inputs and outputs in a program

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Music	<p><b>The assessment will focus on</b> composing a Hip Hop song on the keyboard with a drumbeat, a chord progression, a bassline and a clear structure, then playing it in front of the class (60%).</p> <p>A Google quiz of 20 questions will form the listening/theory part of the assessment.</p>
Art	<p><b>The assessment is focused on</b> students' knowledge and understanding of how to draw an accurate observational drawing of a skull. Students will be demonstrating their skills of how to apply accurate proportions and tone to create depth.</p>
Tech	<p><b>Students in Technology are taught on a rotation. This means what they will be measured against will depend what part of the rotation they are currently on</b></p> <p>The focus of each rotation is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Textiles - creating shorts</li> <li>- Food - food preparation</li> <li>- Product design - making a clock</li> <li>- Resistant materials - Properties of different material</li> </ul>
PE	<p>The assessment is focused on students ability to identify and <b>demonstrate skills learnt in practical lessons in a full context match</b></p>

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